

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

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FOR AN AMERICAN HAWAII.

Hawaii is the only part of the Union which is not trying officially and generally to induce American settlers to take up its vacant lands and produce something.

Every year tens of thousands of desirable young men with stout hearts and some money are coming west looking for homes. They are coming on public invitation. Probably sixty per cent. of the 100,000 of new population which California got last year was of this class.

Such home and state builders are settling among the sandy wastes that used to be called "the great American desert;" they are flocking into Southern California, where a rainfall of ten inches per annum is a rarity; they are surging over Oregon and Washington, and in all the Rocky mountain country—and the best they can do is to raise what everybody else is raising, the products of the North Temperate Zone and take their chances with the selling price. They are there to add to the prodigious volume of wheat, corn, fruit, potatoes, hops and dairy products.

What would happen if some of these migrating hordes of fine, stalwart, ambitious American young men were stopped and told on the authority of the government that Hawaii offers them a chance to grow things that nobody on the mainland is raising and which everybody wants and that it has plenty of public land to grow such things on—what then? Wouldn't they want to come here? Do not pineapples, from a financial point of view, look better than corn? Isn't there something more attractive in sisal, of which the United States imports \$15,000,000 worth per year, than there is in bug-infested hops? Couldn't one demonstrate that there is more in coffee, as the Louisianais raise and market it, than there is in potatoes? And what of the high-grade tobacco which has been raised in Hamakua, the small fruit possibilities and the like, all coupled with the fact that a farmer may, for his own family sustenance, produce the vegetables, dairy products, honey, etc., which he had at home.

Why a fair and square official and personal presentation of the facts on the mainland would bring the right sort of people here as fast as steam could carry them and the land we don't need for sugar would be settled up like that of Wahiawa. And then and there would end forever the threat of Asiaticizing Hawaii and the price of sugar would have but an incidental effect upon general prosperity. Property that pays no taxes now would begin to yield something to the government; wholesale and retail trade would be accelerated; the native Hawaiian would earn money according to a white and not an Asiatic wage-scale; prospects of statehood would begin to crystallize—in a word, Hawaii would be Americanized.

A few people are working to reach that shining goal, among them James B. Castle, than whom there is no man in Hawaii of clearer vision or finer patriotism. And the effort has the fullest approbation of Hawaii's first citizen, Judge Dole, and of the President of the United States. Can any one doubt, seeing that every argument save that of selfishness is with it, that the cause of the American developers will win?

PAUOA, THE BIENNIAL GRAFT.

There are signs of a well-organized conspiracy, if we may call it that, to sell the Pauoa spring to the Territory at a price which would pay for three or four filtration plants. It is whispered by some of the indiscreet promoters of the scheme that the Legislature may be got to appropriate enough money to leave something handsome for the law-makers who will put the measure through. This is a story we do not accept at face value, but it is told and has naturally aroused the same detective vigilance which worked the undoing of Kumale, Johnson and other unfortunate past representatives who allowed the tempter to get the better of them. No such deal could possibly be carried out and the prepetrators remain scathless; for once a legislature has adjourned it is the grand jury's turn and that of the detectives and of the men who turn state's evidence.

Suspicion is sure to attend any Pauoa spring scheme whatever, first, because the project was felonious in its earlier intent and has been unscrupulous in many of its later dealings, and, second, because the authorities have already provided for an adequate water supply and have it within their power, at much less cost than the purchase of the Pauoa spring would involve, to obtain one of unexampled purity.

If it were the purpose to abandon the Nuuanu water project, there would be some excuse for looking up other sources of supply. But who thinks of doing that when so much money has been spent on the dam? And assuming that the dam will be completed, it means that Honolulu will have all the water it requires for fire and domestic purposes. Is the question one of purity? If so a filtration plant would cost but a tithe of what is asked for the Pauoa spring. And filtration plants are so practicable that one may, as has been done in Glasgow, let sewage into one and take out water which is free from organic matter and as pleasant to the taste and as wholesome as artesian water itself.

SUPERVISORS AND SHERIFF.

So firm is the impression in the public mind that the Board of Supervisors is urged by political motives in its policy towards the police department, that the political effect of whatever saving the Board will make, is bound to be in favor of Iaukea rather than of the supervisors themselves. A clear majority of the voters elected Iaukea to do certain things; and although as clear a majority elected the supervisors now in power, it was assuredly not done with the idea that they would use their authority to thwart the popular will as respects a capable and efficient police force. Had the winning candidates for supervisors said early last fall that, if elected, they would reduce the appropriation for the police, in case of Iaukea's choice, considerably below the minimum Brown level, they would have been beaten. The people would not have listened for a moment to a proposition like that. Yet the supervisors are acting along those lines in the apparent hope that they can break down Iaukea's prestige and at the same time make a creditable reputation for themselves.

The effect is bound to be just the contrary. Iaukea has made good in spite of small resources and the people believe in him so thoroughly that they are going to look with scant patience upon political claims which rest upon attempts, however abortive, to do his administration harm. If the police are crippled so that they can not look after the whole city and properly enforce the law, the voters will know whom to call to account at the proper time—and it won't be Iaukea. Such a policy as the County fathers seem to have chosen is tolerably certain, not only to keep the Sheriff's office in Democratic hands for a long time to come, but to put the Board of Supervisors into Democratic control also.

There is a great deal of "tommy rot" telegraphed from Tokio about the pressure of public opinion. As a matter of fact there is no people on the globe more thoroughly under governmental control than the Japanese. What the government of Japan says "goes," and without much back talk, all the dispatches to the contrary notwithstanding.—San Francisco Chronicle.

We take exception. The final word of the Emperor "goes," but in the meantime Parliament and the Ministry are almost if not quite as much subject to public opinion as they are in England.

The record of the present session of the Senate will compare favorably with any previous one. Up to the hour of adjournment on the sixth day, thirty-seven bills had been introduced, and seven had passed final reading. Seven resolutions were presented and twelve reports from standing committees considered. Eight House resolutions were received and four departmental communications. Three messages from the Governor were acted upon, and five petitions and one joint and three concurrent resolutions, were presented.

THE JAPANESE SETTLEMENT.

The Advertiser carries this morning the full text of the immigration law. By its terms the public will see that while Japanese laborers are not formally excluded from the United States proper, the President, if convinced that they have obtained passports to the insular possessions of this country or to the Canal Zone or to any foreign country (as Mexico or Canada) for the purpose of entering the mainland territory therefrom, may proceed to shut them out. Japan will issue no passports to laborers seeking direct entrance, so friction on that score will be avoided. The actual text of the law does not seem to bear out the impression of our local Japanese contemporaries that their country has been worsted in diplomacy. The point which Japan most assiduously sought, that of getting her children fairly treated in San Francisco schools, has been gained; and in emigration matters she has lost nothing which she did not originally concede as a legal possibility in the terms of the treaty of 1894. Fairly weighed, the new law simply represents a give-and-take policy, honorable to the good sense and pacific spirit of both countries.

We note in the terms of the treaty that Hawaii is indirectly classed as an "insular possession" but assume that this was done merely for convenience. If there were quibbles in international law processes, however, such loose phraseology might cause trouble.

THE SHIPPING SITUATION.

If the subsidy shipping bill passes with an amendment excluding the Oceanic liners Sierra, Ventura and Sonoma from its benefits, the need of a temporary suspension of the coastwise shipping laws in favor of Hawaii will be paramount. The comment of this paper already printed was based on private information that the three ships named could not meet the full requirements of the proposed law and that it was the purpose of the Oceanic line, if a subsidy was granted to it, to procure new steamers in the East. Naturally that recourse would kill a good deal of time, during which period Honolulu would be badly served unless the British and Japanese ships were temporarily allowed to carry passengers on the Hawaii-California ferry.

We presume the law could be as easily suspended as was the tariff on Canadian coal during the coal famine a few years ago. If it is not done Honolulu might as well call its tourist season over and reconcile itself to many needless deprivations.

Few American warships the size of the Matsushima and Itsukushima carry such enormous guns as those which constitute the main batteries of the Japanese cruisers. Yet the armament has proved most serviceable. These vessels fought battleships at the Yalu in 1894 and contributed much to Admiral Ito's famous victory there. In the reduction of the forts on Liu Kon Tau island, Wei-hai-Wei bay, in 1895 they also did signal service, presenting a small mark to the enemy yet assailing him with a tremendous weight of metal. It is said by Japanese officers that the Matsushima and Itsukushima, on account of their big guns, were able to render service against Rojstvensky's armada, quite in disproportion to their class.

The horror with which some people contemplate good clear spring water for city service is equalled only by the enthusiasm with which thousands of dollars are wastefully expended starting out to impound surface waters—and then beginning over again.—Bulletin.

Are you there, truepenny? Was there ever a suspected graft, a skin game, a cheap steal or any public rascality that the Bulletin did not gravitate to like a gander to a mudpond? May we ask how much the Pauoa spring job will stand for? Let hope prevail that it offers more than the \$3 per column which the politicians paid last fall for Bulletin "influence."

The doctrine that park sites should be acquired while lands are cheap and good sites available, justifies the present desire of the Kaimuki and Palolo people to get the Zoo tract for park purposes. To be sure the neighborhood is not yet thickly settled but if one waits for that the price of land is likely to go so high that a park can not be afforded. If Kaimuki and Palolo are to have a park, now is the time to get it. Happily for the existing project its promoters can get along without official public aid if the McKinley Memorial fund can be made available. And by the way: Where is that fund and is it drawing interest?

Latterly the Advertiser has not had faith in the enactment of the Refunding bill, but it has refrained from much expression of its doubts. A precedent, such as was sought to create, would probably have returned to plague Congress in the form of bills asking for the same kind of privileges for Alaska and for internal revenue rebates for New Mexico and Arizona. Speaker Cannon foresaw this and acted accordingly: Hawaii has the consolation, however, of getting more money from Congress than the Refunding measure could have yielded and of having educated that body into a clearer understanding of its needs and worth.

Unless Congress lets the coastwise shipping bars down for a brief period, Hawaii will be in a bad way for means of egress and ingress. With so many steamers laid by, the burden of bringing people here and taking them away, will fall mainly on the little Alameda and this at the height of the tourist season. At the same time British and Japanese liners of ample capacity will be calling here but will be unable, as the law stands, to do a local passenger business. Such a situation seems opposed to public policy and entitled to a Congressional remedy.

Pauoa spring water would be about a quart in the bucket of what Honolulu uses daily for domestic purposes and irrigation. Nor is it nearly so pure as surface water could be made by a system of filtration costing one-third as much. The best average volume of the Pauoa spring output has been placed by civil engineers at from 859,920 to 1,000,000 gallons per day. Yet Honolulu requires 7,500,000 gallons and is in the way of getting it by the same process which supplies over 95 per cent. of the cities of the civilized world.

Somehow the Bulletin has got hold of the word "Ishmaelite" and is so pleased with the new toy that it is working it overtime. Probably the paper does not know what the word means, but "Ishmaelite" has a scathing sound and affords a change from the epithet "liar" which stood so long for the Bulletin's intellectual resources. We have some hope for "Ishmaelite" unless the word gets all out of shape in trying to adjust itself to the Bulletin's editorial grammar.

Honolulu banana shippers have done well for years in the San Francisco market and it is a pity that the Hilo shippers should not fare so well. The latter seem to be in the hands of the unscrupulous commission men who so nearly ruined the Southern California lemon industry ten years ago. Fortunes have been made by taking a distant grower's fruit, selling it well and sending back a deficiency bill or the curt message, "no returns."

An evening paper does not like the idea of letting down the coastwise shipping bars for a brief period, thinking it better to pass the ship subsidy bill and then await the building or leasing of big liners under its terms. Meanwhile, for an indefinite number of months, Honolulu could go without its usual passenger facilities. It is unnecessary to name the paper which does this brilliant mental stunt.

While investigating the Nuuanu dam business, legislators might inquire as to the quantity and value of "White Rock" consumed by the expert from California and paid for by the taxpayers of Hawaii.—Trans-Pacific Trade.

If it was only White Rock the Legislature had better thank God and take courage.

The Representative who thought that the Territory of Hawaii had treaties with Japan and China, may be a Hawaiian Rip Van Winkle who went to sleep in some of the mountain okalahao glades before annexation and has just come to.

There are so many footloose vessels in the Pacific now that the occasion of the visit of the Los Angeles business men might be a good one in which to revive the project for a local steamship line.

It is difficult to see how a casual suggestion of L. L. McCandless about the fishmarket, made him in any sense responsible for the Lanai deal.

JAPANESE ON IMMIGRATION LAW.

The news of the passage of the new immigration law by Congress has called forth various comments from the Japanese papers of this town.

The Hawaii Shimpo calls it "a thorough frustration of Japanese diplomacy" and goes on to say: "It is a far greater disgrace to our nation than the Liaotung retrocession which, though a disgrace, was on the face of it a mere alteration of a clause of a Shimonoseki treaty, substituting the indemnity of Y.30,000,000 for the retrocession of the peninsula; but the problem between Japan and America in regard to the school question, relates to a human right which America disregards, in this instance, trampling down the equality of men, and thereby impairing the honor of our Empire. Japan had nothing to give way to America in the present controversy, but could have, by right, demanded an indemnity from America for impairing our national honor, and recover personal damages on behalf of her subjects who were deprived of the facilities and chances of education for their children. Quite contrary to our expectations, Japan has humiliated herself in trying to settle the school question by submitting to the new immigration law. In other words, this would be to humiliate ourselves, in the eyes of the world, to the same deplorable position as the Chinese."

"According to the cable news," it goes on to say, "the change was not made through the revision of the existing treaty but by allowing the United States to change her internal laws, which put a limitation on the treaty rights of Japanese people. Japan allowed the United States to ignore the treaty and trample down the right of residence of the 150,000 Japanese. This is why we call it a thorough frustration of our diplomacy and denounce it as a greater disgrace upon our national honor than the one we had to sustain under the pressure of the three European powers."

In the Shimpo's opinion "the exclusion law will enslave Japanese laborers to the white employers in Hawaii." It attributes "the gradual rise of wages which took place here for the past few years to the free emigration, of which the 'Olympia craze' was one incident;" and argues that "the interest of Japan lies on the increase of wages and the expansion of Japanese labor into the mainland; and that the interest of the planters should be only a secondary consideration."

The Shimpo denounces Viscount Hayashi and Ambassador Aoki, calling the former gentleman "not at all posted except in London affairs," and the Minister at Washington "a fool who did not detect the concerted 'friendly advice' after the China-Japanese War, although being, at that time, the Minister to the Court of Berlin."

The Jiji Shinbun views the situation from an economic point and says, "The policy of our Government in the present question may well be compared with an old proverb 'hit a bamboo bush and out will come a snake.'" It takes it for granted that "the school trouble was a mere tactic of the San Franciscans to shut the incoming Japanese laborers out" and blames the policy pursued by the home Government for "sacrificing the interests of many thousands of her countrymen to save the rights of a few school children."

It says, "the budget of our Government for the coming fiscal year shows the increase of nearly double the amount in expenditure as compared with that of three years ago, and there is a deficit of nearly Y.20,000,000 which has to be made good somehow. The taxes will have to be increased accordingly, but in the present condition, it seems as if the people were not capable of bearing very much more upon their shoulders. Therefore, in order to relieve the economical tension, it should be the policy of the Empire to send the superfluous population abroad after the policy long pursued by England. At this moment we can not help being disheartened at seeing our Government shrink at a demonstration of the Californians and drop the policy that should be her national one." Jiji believes "there is a man behind a curtain who may be laughing at this moment."

The Daily Chronicle, after dwelling at length upon the school question, says, "The new act of Congress is too big a price to pay for the solution of the school complication which is really a small matter in itself" and thinks it "a greatest submission and humiliation since Portsmouth treaty."

The Chronicle argues that "there is no need of school if there is no immigration" and goes on to say that "Hawaii should not be the only factor to be considered, etc."

The Jiji thinks that "the new act of Congress reduces the honor and dignity of Japan to nil." It says "the school question being only a local matter for which the San Francisco school board is responsible, it was to be straightened out under the pressure of the President's 'Big Stick' so far as our demand was right." The Jiji does not see any necessity for the Japanese Government humiliating herself and allowing her subjects to be treated the same as "a Chinese."

In the Jiji's opinion, the best policy that had to be pursued "was the temporary suspension of the immigration to Hawaii, so as to relieve the labor tension," but it says, "to allow the revision of the immigration law and check the expansion of our people permanently on the American Continent is suicidal to the interests of Japan, etc."

While the island papers generally follow the same line of arguments as the Honolulu papers, a departure is made by the Kanai Shu Ho, a paper published at Lihue, which believes "the new act is simply an outcome of the policy pursued by the Japanese Government." The paper laughs at the idea of humiliation and disgrace and says "such opinions are not based either on theory or fact." It thinks "the immigration into the mainland of the Japanese laborers who were permitted by their Government to come to Hawaii is done in violation of the spirit of the passport and, therefore, entirely in defiance of the will of their Government."

"If the Japanese Government," the article says, "could have controlled its subjects in Hawaii, a check would have been put upon the immigration long ago. The American Government therefore rather than ignore the policy of the Japanese Government has followed it." "It is absurd to entertain the idea that the new act is a humiliation of Japan because the restriction exempts other nationalities." The paper calls such an idea "the opinion of 'lawyers' soaked beyond salvation in Western law-books," and goes on to say, "the policy of our Government is sound and far-seeing and we must be ready to obey the order of the Emperor and follow the best policy of the State." "The new law will not prevent our systematic expansion and enterprises on the American continent, but by removing the objections of the American people, it will smooth the way." "Locally considered, if this outflow of our countrymen were not stopped now, the supply of labor would have been sought for elsewhere by the Hawaiian capitalists, resulting in the total crushing of our enterprises in Hawaii, at the same time causing far greater troubles in the States which our country's interests could not tolerate." The article ends thus with a reproving remark: "Were the helm of the State in the hands of those smart politicians and orators of Honolulu who have dared to call our great statesmen 'fools that are not versed in the world's policies,' surely then, the old glory of the Far East would have been tarnished long ago."

THE TREATING HABIT.

While not much in favor of laws that interfere with the liberty of the individual any more than of the press, this paper concedes much merit to the legislative proposal to stop the "treating" habit in saloons.

A man, for instance, feels that he would be the better for one drink of beer or wine or even of spirits. That is all he wants and all he intends to take. But when he approaches the bar he finds some people he knows who want him to drink with them. It would seem churlish to refuse. Then it is his social duty to return the compliment and before the ordeal is over everybody has "stood treat." That means four or five drinks under the vest instead of one and the man who wanted one drink has incapacitated himself for his work. Nobody has profited by the transaction but the bar.

A Virginia philosopher once said: "It is not your regular drinking that kills you; it is this infernal habit of drinking between drinks." Treating is much to blame for that.

People confine their treating to drinks and cigars and occasionally meals. They don't treat to pocket-knives, groceries, tooth-brushes, neckties or shoes—but the things for appetite. If they must treat why not give other merchants than refreshment merchants a chance to profit by it? But why treat at all, unless for charity's sake or for civilized sociability, as in giving dinners and the like?

DAMAGE SUIT APPEAL.

Proceedings have been taken by Douthitt and Dunne for plaintiffs to appeal from Judge De Bolt's granting of a new trial of the damage suits of Wakeki Heleluhe and Kahakuakoi Kealahapauole against Honolulu Rapid Transit & Land Co. It is stipulated that both cases be taken as one to the Supreme Court.

ARIZONAN AT SAN DIEGO.

A cablegram was received yesterday, announcing the arrival of the S. S. Arizonan at San Diego from Salina Cruz, on that date. She delivered the first sugar cargo at the Mexican terminus this season.

The steamer J. A. Cummins is still busy on the Koolau side of the island.